

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE FARM ADVISER

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NOTICE

The purpose of the Farm Adviser is to furnish a convenient and timely medium for supplying news notes regarding the work of the Agricultural College, Experiment Station, and Extension Service, in co-operation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture to the local press and to county demonstration agents with a view to keeping them and the people throughout the State informed of the activities of these agricultural agencies in their behalf. All requests for copies of this sheet should be directed to Reuben Brigham, In Charge of Publications, The Extension Service, College Park, Maryland.

STATE DEMONSTRATION AGENT URGES COMMUNITY CO-OPERATION

College Park, Md., June 23.

At the invitation of the Southern Maryland Tobacco Growers' Association, which met in Prince Frederick, Calvert county, yesterday, Mr. G. H. Alford, State Demonstration Agent, addressed the Association on the subject of "Community Organization and Co-operation." He laid special emphasis upon the need of the farmers of Southern Maryland to co-operate through neighborhood organizations, such as farmers' clubs, granges and local improvement associations.

In regard to the activities of such an organization he made the following statement; "The first step to take to organize the farmers in your community is to get your neighborhood waked up. Probably the best

way to get it waked up is to organize a farmers' club. First try to interest a half dozen neighbors, or as many as possible, and try to get out a big crowd to the first meeting. Have a speaker from a distance, if possible—not a mere exhorter, but a man who will give practical suggestions for making the club a power in the community. It is also advisable to link up the club with the Grange.

Now, having organized the farmers into a club, the next thing to do is to make the meetings very interesting and instructive. If the secretary just simply calls the roll, reads the minutes and puts through the regular order of business the club will soon starve to death. The club should have a fixed program for each meeting, with at least one good speaker assigned to each subject and given sufficient advance notice to enable him to prepare an address. An excellent idea is to have a roll call of opinions at each meeting. After the regular speakers have expressed themselves, call on each member present to give his opinion within a two, three or five minute time limit as the circumstances may seem to apply. In this way you will call out the quieter and less active members and frequently develop qualities of leadership in them which might otherwise never come to life. And just here it should always be remembered that the sort of leaders needed in every farmers' organization are those who find more pleasure in developing others than in exhibiting themselves.

A community spirit should be developed in every country district, the people in the rural districts should boast of having the best roads in the county, the best school, the best school library, the biggest corn club,

the greatest number of painted houses, the best farmers' club, the most houses with waterworks, the most silos, most registered live stock, the most attractive social life, and so on. Why shouldn't the farmers' club in a neighborhood be as active in promoting every idea for the upbuilding of the community as the city business men's club is in promoting every idea for the upbuilding of the city in which it is located."

In addition to the State Agent, Local County Agents W. R. Linthicum of Charles, John H. Drury of Calvert and G. F. Wathen, Jr., of St. Mary's were in attendance.

SUMMER SCHOOL OPENS AT AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

College Park, Md., June 22.

One hundred and eight school teachers from various sections of the State registered as students for the Summer School being held at the Agricultural College from June 22 to July 31. Additional enrollments today are expected to bring the total number up to about one hundred and fifty, which is over three times that of the pioneer Summer School in 1914. A large number of these students are taking College Credit Work which will lead, eventually, to a regular degree. The most popular subjects are the courses in Elementary Education, Mathematics, Elementary Agriculture and Domestic Science. A particularly strong course in Domestic Science is being given under Miss Emma S. Jacobs, Director of Domestic Science in the Washington Public Schools. Instruction in Agriculture and General Science subjects is being given by the regular staff of the Agricultural College. Although the work of the Summer School is intended primarily

for the training of rural teachers, ample provision has been made for instruction in general educational subjects.

HOME ECONOMICS MEETING AT ROSLYN GRANGE

College Park, Md., June 23.

At a joint meeting of Roslyn and Glyndon Granges of Baltimore county, the special feature was a Home Economics Program, such as is being carried out in a number of local Granges in the State. Miss Katharine A. Pritchett, in charge of Women's Demonstration Work in the State, explained the principal features of her activities and urged that the farm women, as well as the men, be provided with systematic instruction in improving the conditions surrounding the farm homes. A local Woman Agent is in a position to systematically furnish the housekeeper with the latest information regarding labor saving devices for the home, and in so arranging her household work that she may have more leisure to give to the training of her children. Miss Pritchett stated that the work was being received most favorably throughout the State, the main trouble being to secure enough women fully qualified by education and training to carry on the work under her direction.

Assistant State Agent Reuben Brigham, in charge of Boys' Club Work in Maryland, was also present and mentioned briefly the benefits to be derived from encouraging the boys in farm work and community interests.

EXTENSION WORKER ON THE EASTERN SHORE

College Park, Md., June 26.

During the past week Prof. J. B. S. Norton, State Pathologist, and Prof. C. E. Temple, Specialist in Plant Diseases for the Extension Service, have been engaged in making a survey of conditions affecting the tomato crop on the Eastern

Shore. Prof. Norton, particularly, has been conducting investigations along this line for a number of years and has succeeded in producing a wilt resisting strain of tomato.

Prof. Nicholas Schmitz, of the Experiment Station, is also visiting various sections of the Eastern Shore where he is co-operating with local parties in conducting demonstrations in grasses, wheat and oats.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PROVIDES FOR AGRICULTURAL AGENT

College Park, Md., June 25.

There have been two recent additions to the counties interested in Demonstration Work. Montgomery county has appropriated \$1,000 towards securing the services of a first class County Agricultural Agent who will represent the Extension Service of the Agricultural College and Department of Agriculture in that section. State Agent G. H. Alford will make a special effort to secure a man thoroughly educated in Agricultural Work and with practical farm experience. He feels that a strong representative of the Extension Work in Montgomery county will be of great benefit, both to the Demonstration Work and to the farmers who reap the benefit of it.

Harford county has made an appropriation for a Local Woman Agent and the work is receiving enthusiastic support. Alleghany county, where a woman agent was recently appointed, reports rapidly increasing interest. Mrs. L. H. Powell, who is in charge of the work there reports having organized a club of fifteen girls in addition to several meetings called for the purpose of explaining the nature and purpose of her work.

CO-OPERATION IN IMPROVING SCHOOL GROUNDS

College Park, Md., June 26.

One of the features of the Extension Work from the Agricultural College has been that done through the department of Landscape Gar-

dening in charge of Prof. B. W. Anspen. Prof. Anspen visited Federalsburg High School, Caroline county, early in the past week and helped the local school authorities in planning the ground about the new building. He is also working in co-operation with High Schools in Frederick and Laurel. He is also meeting with a number of Garden Clubs situated in various sections of the State, having addressed during the past week clubs located at Upper Falls and Ruxton.

CONTROL OF APPLE BLIGHT

Blight is now prevalent on apple and pear trees in nearly all parts of Maryland. On some apple trees practically all the fruit has been destroyed. The loss in many orchards in the State is very serious.

In response to the widespread complaint of apple blight, Prof. J. B. S. Norton, State Pathologist, recommends the following treatment:

"The most effective treatment consists in cutting out the diseased parts. In young orchards and in nurseries where there is naturally but little blight, and in old orchards in seasons when blight is not serious, by cutting out every blighted twig and canker as soon as possible, giving special attention to the body and base of the tree, a bad outbreak may be prevented in following years. It is also necessary to destroy all blight in the neighborhood on wild or cultivated trees as the bees may carry it long distances. Bees are, however, necessary to pollenate the flowers.

"When old bearing trees are badly infected, winter is the best time to cut out the blight. The cuts on large branches or in the trunk should be brushed with a disinfectant and when dry protected by painting with white lead in linseed oil. In cutting blight in the growing season, it is important to wipe the pruning instrument after each cut on a cloth or sponge wet with either carbolic acid, concentrated lime-sulfur, five per cent formalin, or other disinfectant to prevent reinfection of the next cut. Cut twigs several inches below where the blight shows, as in spring the germs extend much farther in than they show on the outside."

